

*IMMIGRATION AND  
NATURALIZATION SERVICE*

*Monthly Statistical Report  
September FY 2000 Year End Report*



Prepared by the Office of Policy and Planning  
October 31, 2000



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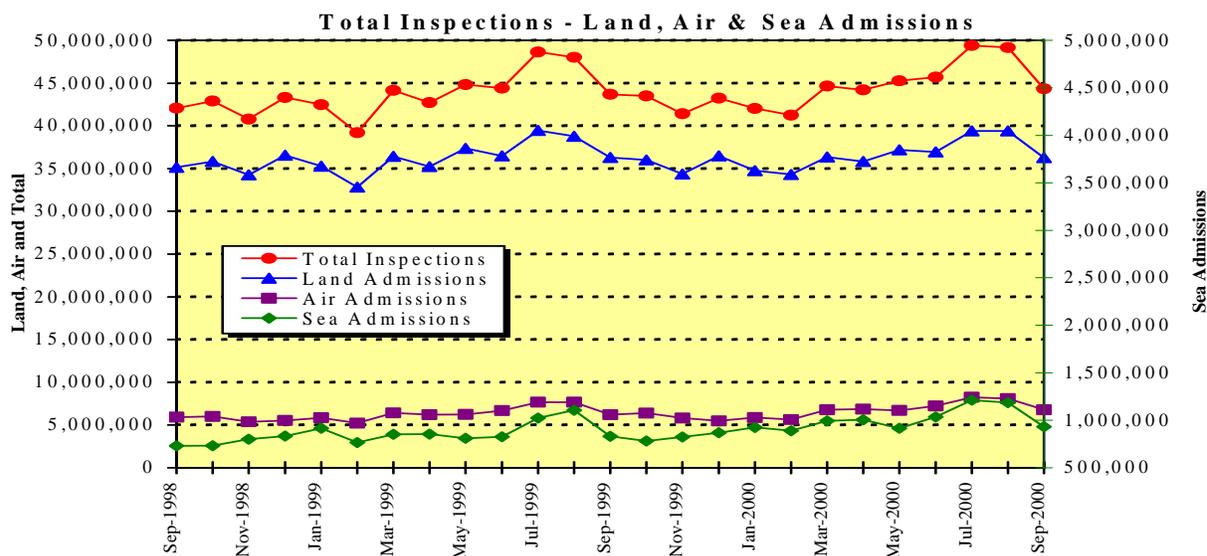
1. Data are preliminary and subject to revision; they are current as of February 12, 2003.

## INSPECTIONS

Compared to September 1999, total inspections of citizens and aliens for entry to the United States increased 1 percent. Air admissions increased 9 percent and land admissions decreased slightly compared to the previous September. Sea admissions increased 12 percent, and inadmissibles decreased 8 percent compared to September 1999. Total inspections for all twelve months of fiscal year 2000 increased 2 percent compared to the total inspections for fiscal year 1999.

	Month			Fiscal Year			Total FY 1999
	Sep-2000	Sep-1999	%Change	FY 2000 to Date	FY 1999 to Date	%Change	
<b>Total Inspections</b>	44,338,970	43,683,756	1	534,184,259	525,186,487	2	525,186,487
<b>Air Admitted</b>	6,784,265	6,222,335	9	79,866,626	75,051,126	6	75,051,126
<b>Land Admitted</b>	36,282,584	36,290,144	0	437,374,387	434,806,525	1	434,806,525
<b>Sea Admitted</b>	932,701	831,450	12	11,569,132	10,352,177	12	10,352,177
<b>Inadmissible</b>	63,831	69,509	-8	775,005	781,078	-1	781,078

Data Source: PAS G-22.1



- INS inspected about 534 million people applying for admission at U.S. ports of entry in FY 2000, an increase of 2 percent compared to fiscal year 1999.
- About 15 million U.S. citizens were admitted at INS ports of entry during the month of September 2000, compared to approximately 29 million aliens admitted during the same month. The above categories of admission include individuals who make multiple entries, for example, citizens who leave and reenter the United States multiple times, permanent residents who make multiple entries, or aliens who hold border crossing cards and commute back and forth each week from Canada or Mexico.
- The total inadmissible count for fiscal year 2000 was 775,005, a 1 percent decrease over fiscal year 1999. Prior to FY98, inadmissible persons included aliens referred to secondary inspection who had withdrawn, were refused entry, were paroled in, or were referred to an Immigration Judge for a removal hearing. Starting in FY98, three new categories for inadmissible were added: expedited cases withdrawn, expedited removal orders, and aliens referred for credible fear interviews.

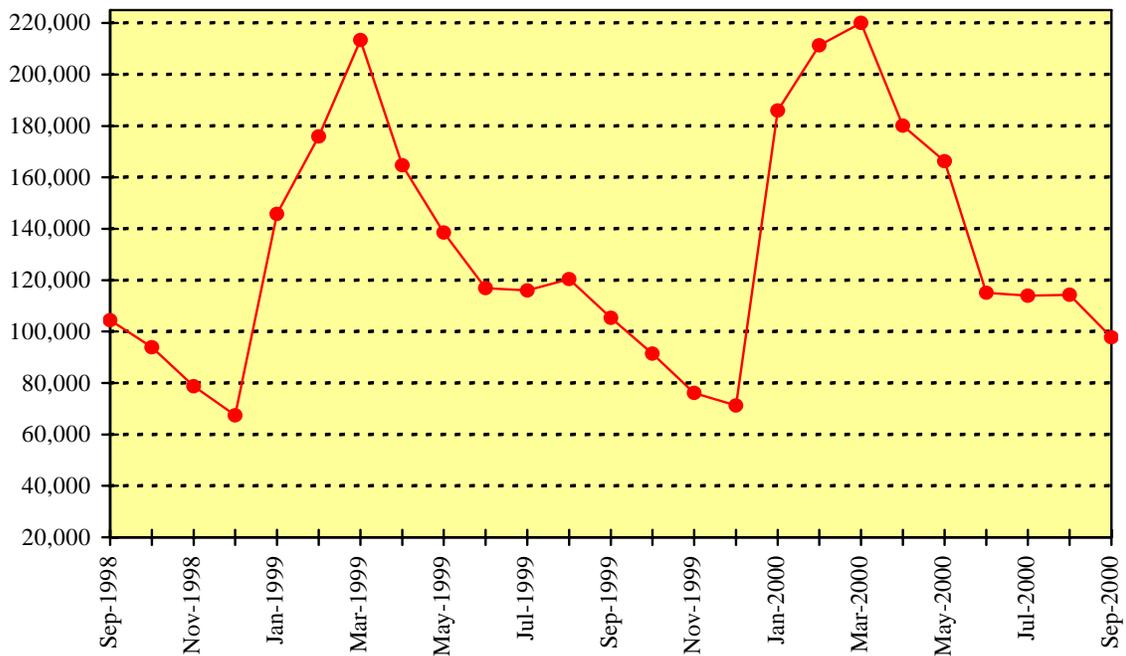
## SOUTHWEST BORDER APPREHENSIONS

The U.S. Border Patrol made 97,744 apprehensions along the southwest border during September 2000, a 7 percent decrease when compared to September 1999. Voluntary returns conducted by Border Patrol agents decreased by 7 percent to 94,468. For all twelve months of fiscal year 2000, apprehensions and voluntary returns were up 7 percent respectively, when compared to the same figures for fiscal year 1999.

Southwest Border	Month			Fiscal Year			Total FY 1999
	Sep-2000	Sep-1999	%Change	FY 2000 to Date	FY 1999 to Date	%Change	
Apprehensions	97,744	105,324	-7	1,643,679	1,537,000	7	1,537,000
Voluntary Returns	94,468	102,033	-7	1,603,038	1,496,268	7	1,496,268

Data Source: PAS G-23.8 & G-23.18

**Southwest Border Total Apprehensions**



- Normally, apprehensions reach a yearly low in December followed by a strong seasonal increase in January. Seasonal highs tend to be reached in early spring. Apprehensions fluctuate but remain relatively high through the summer months and then start their autumn decline in September, which continues through the Christmas and New Year holidays.
- The total number of 1,643,679 apprehensions reported on the southwest border in fiscal year 2000 exceeded the previous record set in fiscal year 1986 by 27,835 apprehensions.
- In fiscal year 1999, Central American apprehensions on the southwest border reached 29,115, an increase of 8,301 when compared to the previous year. For the twelve months of fiscal year 2000, southwest border Central American apprehensions reached 23,092 a decrease of 21 percent compared to fiscal year totals for 1999. Of the 23,092 Central Americans apprehended in fiscal year 2000, 42 percent were Honduran, 35 percent were El Salvadoran, 20 percent were Guatemalan, and 3 percent were Nicaraguan.

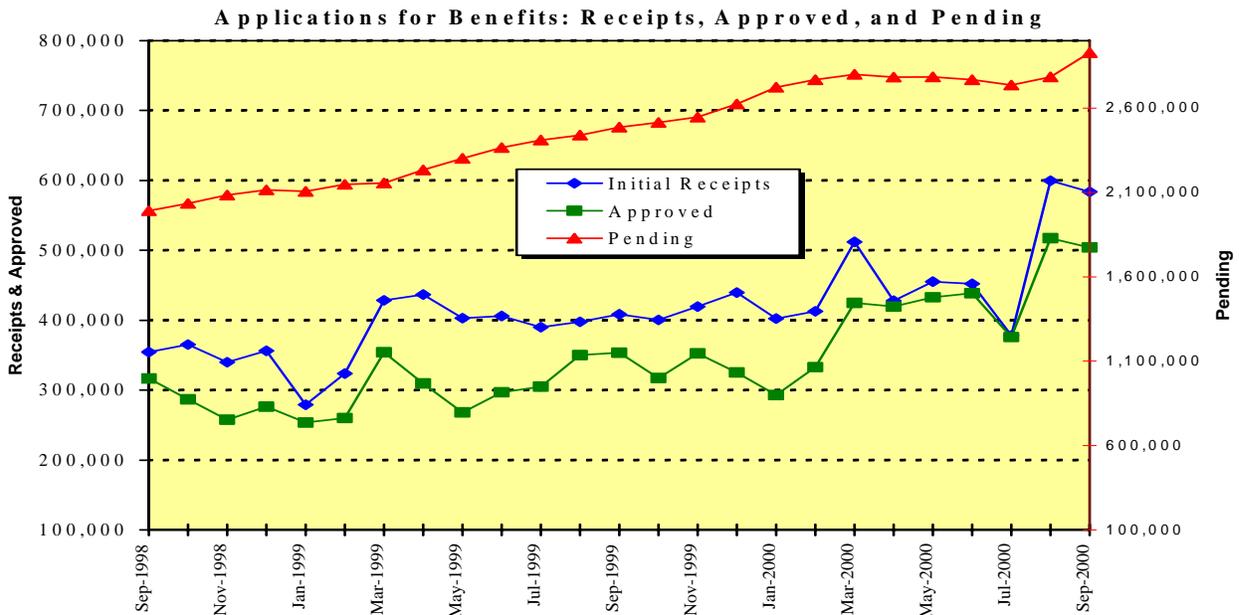
## APPLICATIONS FOR IMMIGRATION BENEFITS

Applications and petitions for immigration benefits in September 2000 increased 43 percent compared to the number received in September 1999. September approvals were up 43 percent, while denials increased by 29 percent when compared to September 1999. For the twelve months of fiscal year 2000, receipts were up 21 percent while approvals were up 33 percent when compared to the same period in FY99. Pending applications increased by 18 percent compared to fiscal year 1999.

	<i>Month</i>			<i>Fiscal Year</i>			<i>Total FY 1999</i>
	<i>Sep-2000</i>	<i>Sep-1999</i>	<i>%Change</i>	<i>FY 2000 to Date</i>	<i>FY 1999 to Date</i>	<i>%Change</i>	
<b>Initial Receipts<sup>1</sup></b>	583,710	408,541	43	5,483,792	4,534,938	21	4,534,938
<b>Approved</b>	504,095	353,469	43	4,734,328	3,572,263	33	3,572,263
<b>Denied</b>	35,159	27,246	29	353,479	314,833	12	314,833
<b>Pending<sup>1</sup></b>	2,928,254	2,487,403	18	2,928,254	2,487,403	18	2,487,403

Data Source: PAS G-22.2

<sup>1</sup> Receipts and Pending do not reflect an estimated 31,000 I-485s filed but not data entered.



- Major volumes in September application receipts include: 138,162 I-765 employment authorizations; 118,111 I-90 Green Card replacements; 74,921 I-130 relative petitions; and 47,014 I-485 permanent resident adjustments.
- Major volumes of pending cases at the end of fiscal year 2000 include: 1,001,479 I-485 permanent resident adjustments; 806,899 I-130 relative petitions; 256,451 I-765 employment authorizations; and 237,573 I-90 Green Card replacements.
- Pending applications increased by 143,768 between the end of August 2000 and the end of September 2000. This increase in part reflects the results of the Service-wide Inventory Plan (SWIP). This plan consists of performing a complete audit of INS pending applications. Counts of pending cases for major INS applications may fluctuate slightly in the coming month because of remaining SWIP reconciliations.

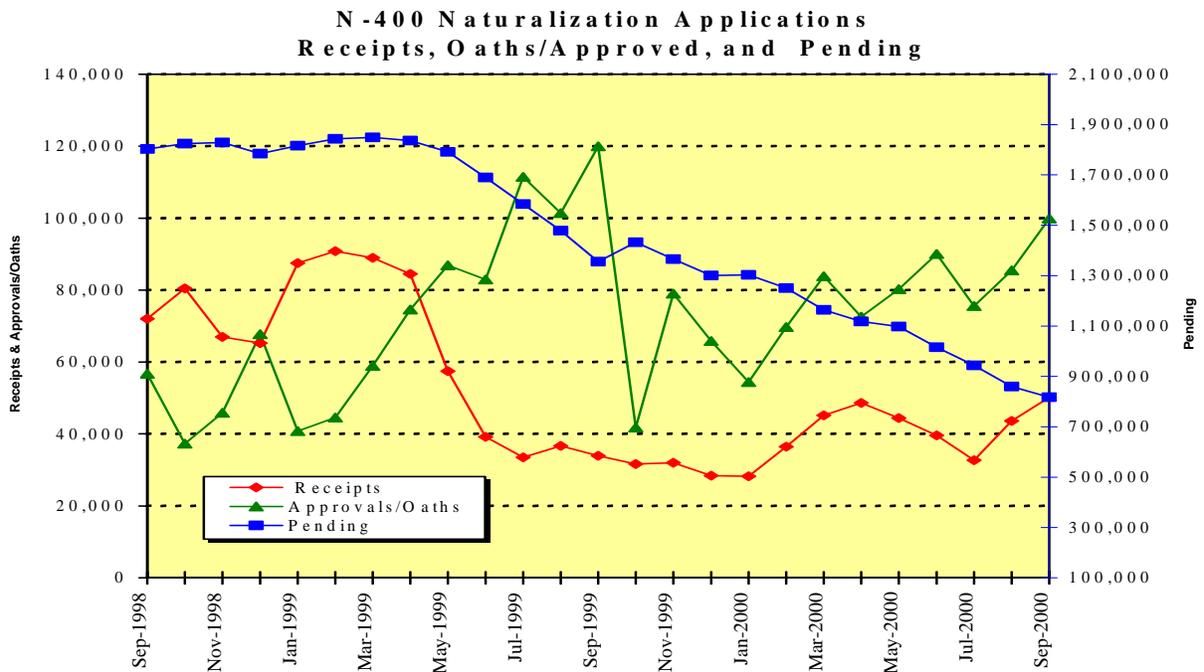
## NATURALIZATION BENEFITS

Naturalization receipts in September increased 48 percent when compared to the same month in fiscal year 1999. Approvals for September 2000 were down 17 percent when compared to the same month last year. For fiscal year 2000, receipts were down 40 percent compared to last year, while 898,315 applicants for naturalization took the oath of citizenship, an increase of 3 percent compared to fiscal year 1999.

	Month <sup>1</sup>			Fiscal Year			Total FY 1999
	Sep-2000	Sep-1999	%Change	FY 2000 to Date	FY 1999 to Date	%Change	
<b>Receipts</b>	50,128	33,929	48	460,916	765,346	-40	765,346
<b>Approvals/Oaths</b>	99,894	119,984	-17	898,315	872,427	3	872,427
<b>Denied</b>	51,810	44,256	17	399,670	379,993	5	379,993
<b>Pending</b>	817,431	1,355,524	-40	817,431	1,355,524	-40	1,355,524

Data Source: PAS G-22.3

<sup>1</sup> Receipts and Pending do not reflect an estimated 24,500 N-400s filed but not data entered.



- The number of N-400 cases pending at the end of fiscal year 2000 decreased 40 percent when compared to one year ago. Pending cases declined 42,340 or about 5 percent from the end of August 2000 to the end of September 2000. However, this decrease is in part due to the Service-wide Inventory Plan (SWIP). This plan consists of performing a complete audit of INS pending applications. Therefore, the counts of pending N-400 cases may fluctuate slightly in the coming month because of remaining SWIP reconciliations.
- The total number of denied applications during fiscal year 2000 reached 399,670, an increase of 5 percent when compared to the total denied for fiscal year 1999.

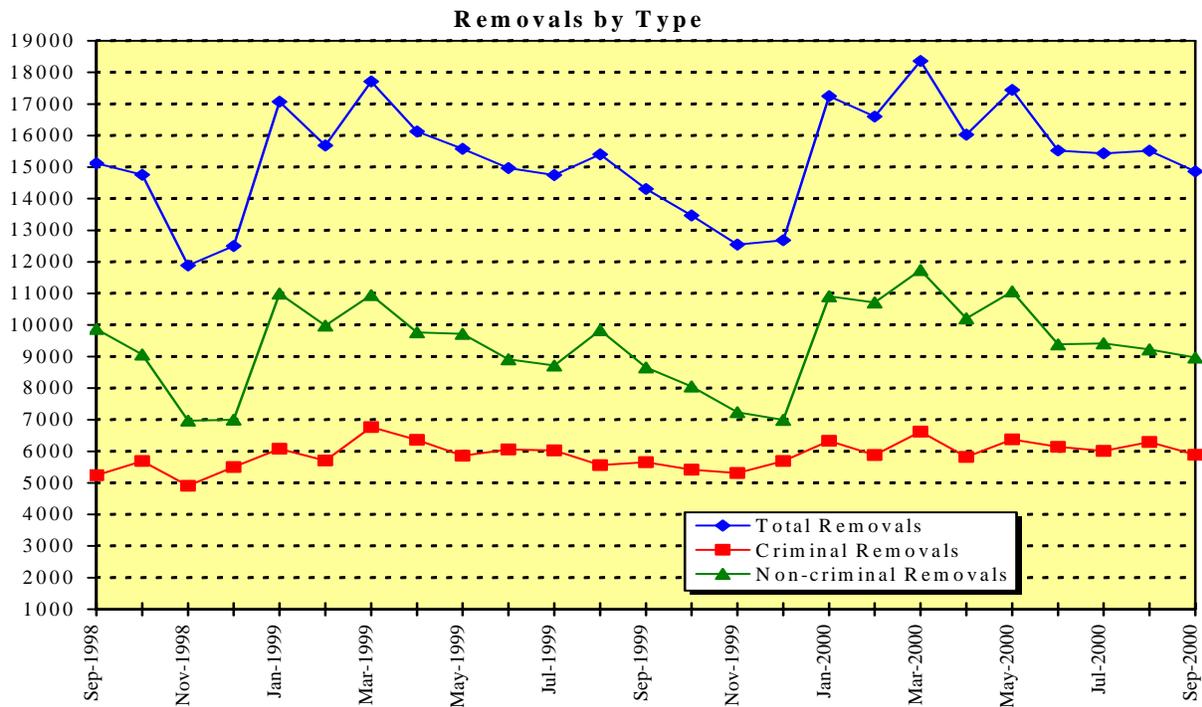
## REMOVALS

Total removals for September increased 4 percent compared to the same month a year before. In September 2000, INS removed 14,860 aliens from the United States, 5,893 of these aliens were criminals.

	Month			Fiscal Year			Total FY 1999
	Sep-2000*	Sep-1999	%Change	FY 2000 to Date	FY 1999 to Date	%Change	
<b>Deportable Inadmissible</b>	4,016	4,114	-2	48,267	48,751	-1	48,751
<b>Total Removals</b>	14,860	14,307	4	185,731	180,760	3	180,760
<b>Criminal Removals</b>	5,893	5,654	4	71,801	70,186	2	70,186
<b>Non-criminal Removals</b>	8,967	8,653	4	113,930	110,574	3	110,574

Data Source: HQSTA DACS Monthly Extract

\* Current Monthly Data are Preliminary.



- Historically there are significant upward revisions in the removal statistics for three months after the initial reporting period, with smaller revisions thereafter. Each month the Office of Immigration Statistics revises the published statistics for the previous three fiscal years.
- Total removals in FY 2000 increased 3 percent over FY 1999. Removals of criminal aliens increased 2 percent. Expedited removals (85,836) declined 4 percent. Non-expedited removals increased 9 percent.
- In FY 2000, criminal alien removals are 66 percent of non-expedited removals and 39 percent of total removals.

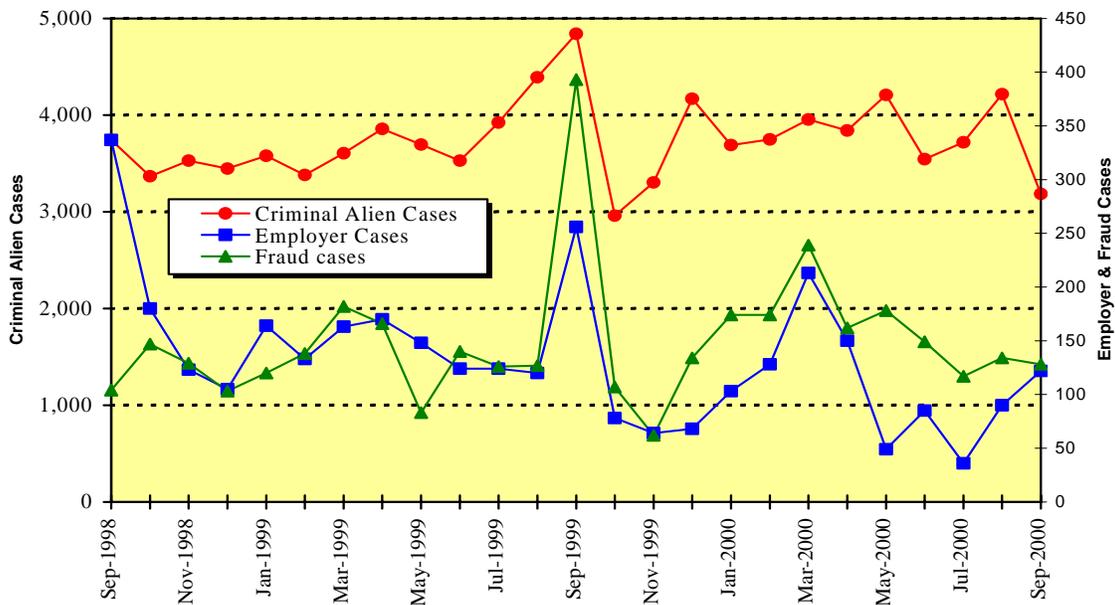
## INVESTIGATIONS

Successful completions of criminal alien cases for September 2000 decreased 34 percent when compared to September 1999, while employer cases decreased by 52 percent compared to the previous September. Fraud completions for September decreased 67 percent compared to the same month last year and successful completions of smuggling cases decreased by 16 cases or 31 percent. Fiscal year 2000 criminal cases decreased 1 percent, while employer cases decreased 34 percent compared to fiscal year 1999. The number of fraud cases in fiscal year 2000 decreased by 5 percent while, smuggling cases showed a 18 percent increase compared to fiscal year 1999.

Successful Completions	Month			Fiscal Year			Total FY 1999
	Sep-2000	Sep-1999	%Change	FY 2000 to Date	FY 1999 to Date	%Change	
<b>Criminal Alien Cases</b>	3,184	4,840	-34	44,546	45,146	-1	45,146
<b>Employer Cases</b>	122	256	-52	1,186	1,810	-34	1,810
<b>Fraud Cases</b>	128	393	-67	1,758	1,854	-5	1,854
<b>Smuggling Cases</b>	36	52	-31	475	404	18	404

Data Source: PAS G-23.19 & 19.1

**Criminal and Worksite Cases Successfully Completed**



- Definitions:** Successful Completion: a case that has resulted in an adverse action such as a prosecution, deportation, removal, denial, civil action, or cessation of targeted activity based on the outcome of the investigation. Case Types: Criminal alien cases include large-scale organizations engaged in ongoing criminal activity and individual aliens convicted of a crime such as drug trafficking or terrorism. Employer cases include investigations that target employers who knowingly hire or who continue to employ illegal aliens. Fraud cases include marriage fraud, immigration benefit fraud, Employer Sanctions document fraud, and entitlement fraud. Smuggling cases involve those which target persons or entities who bring, transport, harbor, or smuggle illegal aliens into or within the United States.

## ASYLUM

The number of applications for asylum in September 2000 increased 18 percent compared to the number filed in September 1999. The pending caseload was 4 percent lower than in the same month last year.

	<i>Month</i>			<i>Fiscal Year</i>			<i>Total FY 1999</i>
	<i>Sep-2000</i>	<i>Sep-1999</i>	<i>%Change</i>	<i>FY 2000 to Date</i>	<i>FY 1999 to Date</i>	<i>%Change</i>	
<b>Cases Filed</b>	4,643	3,922	18	49,462	42,530	16	42,530
<b>Approved</b>	1,618	943	72	16,810	13,510	24	13,510
<b>Denied</b>	675	252	168	7,329	1,908	284	1,908
<b>Otherwise Closed</b>	1,829	1,986	-8	23,015	22,501	2	22,501
<b>Referred to IJ</b>	1,128	1,067	6	13,905	16,054	-13	16,054
<b>Pending</b>	328,977	342,095	-4	328,977	342,095	-4	342,095

IJ - Immigration Judges at the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR).

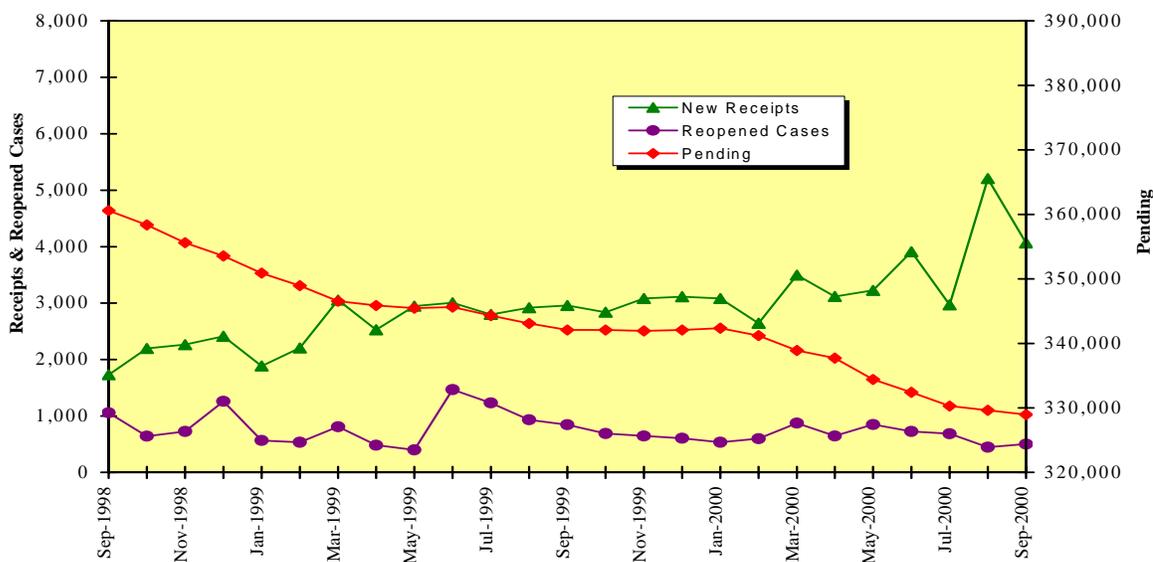
Cases filed - includes both new and reopened applications.

Denied - includes applications rejected under the one-year filing deadline.

Data Source: RAPS

Data are preliminary, for revised tables visit the "Asylees" page of the Statistical Yearbook at:  
[www.immigration.gov/graphics/shared/aboutus/statistics/index.htm](http://www.immigration.gov/graphics/shared/aboutus/statistics/index.htm)

**Asylum Applications Received, Reopened Cases & Pending**



- Nationals of the People's Republic of China submitted the most asylum applications in September, followed by Colombia and Haiti.
- The Asylum Program began interviewing applicants for suspension of deportation/cancellation of removal under the Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act (NACARA) in October 1999. Applicants granted NACARA benefits are withdrawing their applications for asylum at a high rate and therefore there are large increases in asylum claims that are administratively closed.